

CLAIMS

1. A tongue cleaning device that is used for removing debris from a tongue; the device comprising:

5 a body having a handle and a working edge carried by the handle; and a debris-removal channel having at least one inlet disposed adjacent the working edge of the body; the debris-removal channel adapted to direct debris away from the working edge.

10 2. The device of claim 1, further comprising suction means for creating a suction force in the debris-removal channel.

15 3. The device of claim 2, wherein the suction means is carried by the body.

4. The device of claim 3, wherein the body defines a venturi opening in fluid communication with the debris-removal channel.

20 5. The device of claim 4, further comprising a debris retention device in fluid communication with the debris-removal channel.

6. The device of claim 5, wherein the debris retention device is connected to the handle.

7. The device of claim 2, wherein the suction means is not carried by the body.

8. The device of claim 1, wherein the body is fabricated from titanium.

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9. The device of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the debris-removal channel is defined by the handle.

10. The device of claim 9, wherein the body defines a plurality of spaced inlets disposed along the working edge.

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11. The device of claim 1, wherein the working edge is concave with respect to the tongue.

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12. The device of claim 1, wherein the body includes means for allowing the handle to flex with respect to the working edge.

13. A tongue cleaning device that is used for removing debris from a tongue; the device comprising:

a body having a handle and head:

the head having a working edge adapted to be moved over the tongue:

and

the working edge being concave with respect to the tongue.

14. The device of claim 13, wherein the head of the body defines a debris retention recess.

15. The device of claim 14, wherein the debris retention recess is adjacent the working edge.

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16. The device of claim 15, wherein the debris retention recess is a curved depression defined by the head of the body.

17. A tongue cleaning device that is used for removing debris from a tongue; the device comprising:

a body having a handle and head;

the head having a working edge adapted to be moved over the tongue;

and

15 the head of the body defining a debris retention recess adapted to collect debris as it is removed from the tongue by the working edge.

18. The device of claim 17, wherein the debris retention recess is adjacent the working edge.

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19. The device of claim 18, wherein the debris retention recess is a curved depression defined by the head of the body.